

# **Woolbeding Parish Action plan 2005**

# The Parish of Woolbeding with Redford. 2005

Welcome to the parish of Woolbeding. North of the downs, near Midhurst, we comprise: the sand of the Severels, the water meadows and a stretch of the River Rother in Woolbeding with Woolbeding House and its beautiful and ancient church. To the north is the sandstone ridge with its rare and protected heath-land. At this end of the parish is Redford village with village green, small post office and garage.

The whole parish is home to just one hundred and thirty five registered electors. With few residents and a comparatively large area of common land and protected farm lands, this is a rural parish, the vast majority of it being in the hands of the National Trust.

In 1978, as part of the Government's review of parish boundaries, the parish was threatened with being broken up and amalgamated with its neighbours. It was thought important then and even more so today, that this unique parish of Woolbeding should have its own voice in local government.

An area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a Site of Special Scientific Interest, which boasts an extraordinary combination of rare habitats, it seems essential that with the pressures for change in the 21<sup>st</sup> century Woolbeding should be treated with due respect.

Part of the estate, particularly the common land, is open to visitors. And the demands of their increasing numbers coupled with increasing levels of motor traffic through the parish have become more evident in recent years.

At the same time there had been a decrease in commercial activity and a tendency for smaller dwellings to be enlarged. New building is rare within the parish but large scale residential development in neighbouring parishes close to our borders, will have its effect.

With an evident desire amongst our residents to maintain parish life and activity we are absolutely dedicated to this ideal. However, much of Woolbeding must remain unrestricted and open for essential recreation and refreshment for residents and visitors alike.

R. Meikle  
Chairman Woolbeding Parish Council

# The Purpose and the Process

The Woolbeding Parish Plan was first considered following a presentation by Ms. Ruth Goldstone for Action in Rural Sussex at the Annual Parish Meeting in March 2004. The parishioners were invited to a meeting of the Parish Council on 11<sup>th</sup> May at which the purpose of the plan was explained.

'The Action Plan process is a means by which your whole community can voice their opinions.....When the plan is completed it may highlight actions that can be taken by community members, be used to influence councils and service providers and act as justification of need when applying for funding.' (AiRS)

A steering committee of residents who would collect and collate the information needed to compile the Parish Action Plan was formed and an operating grant was made available by W.S.C.C .

Everyone living or working within the parish was invited to a launch meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup> 2004 in the Village Hall. The purpose of the plan was explained again. Topics and areas of concern/interest were highlighted and all were encouraged to make suggestions and comments about anything and everything. Comments were written on individual slips of paper to be deposited in a large 'post-box'. It was left to individual choice whether names were attached to comments as it was felt that anonymity might produce a wider and more representative range of opinions. The consultation period was extended to the end of September 2004, a suggestion box being left in the village shop.

At the end of this period the comments were collated and analysed by the steering committee and grouped into areas of concern. These are the headings used in this Action Plan. They are probably similar to those in plans produced by other rural parishes and communities with the exception of the section about the Commons, which is what makes Woolbeding Parish unique.

The steering committee have worked to produce the final document, a copy of which will be delivered to every household in the parish and to W.S.C.C. where it should be logged alongside the County Structure Plan to be considered at each stage of planning, by the last quarter of 2005.

The Parish Council and the steering committee will review the plan regularly, comments and findings will be aired at Woolbeding Parish Council meetings which are advertised and open to the public.

# WOOLBEDING PARISH PLAN

All members of the parish were invited to comment about their community, surroundings and services.

Acknowledging that the world is constantly changing, most comments were of a forward-looking nature. Suggestions were generally positive, indicating a community which is both caring and careful of itself and its environment.

There appears to be a readiness to accommodate change which will enhance and benefit a small rural community whilst wanting to preserve those aspects which make the area unique and special.

However, this willingness exists alongside a determination to protect and preserve its character from outside pressures which fail to take into account the unique and special qualities of the place in which we all live.

<b>Transport and traffic</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>The village, hall &amp; green</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>Woolbeding &amp; Pound Commons</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Community services &amp; activities</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Housing &amp; development</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Local business</b>	<b>9%</b>

# STEERING COMMITTEE

The steering committee is made up of members of the Parish:-

**John Andre** (Resident)

**Penny Caulfeild** (Village Hall Committee)

**Marion Hansford** (Village Hall Committee, Parish Council)

**Heather Harley** (The National Trust)

**Pat Kettle** (Resident)

**Karen Lovett** (Parish Council)

**Rod Meikle** (Chairman Parish Council)

**Don Sinclair** (Parish Council)

## MAKING THE PLAN WORK!

The production of this Parish Action Plan is as a result of a Government initiative, to involve everyone in the choices being made about their environment and their lives.

The finished Plan will indeed be lodged in the WSCC offices, and will, we hope, be referred to in future planning decisions as being representative of the views held by this parish.

However, the Plan does not work by itself, it should be considered as a working document to be referred to regularly, updated and adapted as time and views change.

This action plan has highlighted a number of concerns and some specific opportunities. The Actions are suggestions only, derived from the comments made by the parishioners. Some can be dealt with by the parish itself. Some will need the support of higher authorities. Some require detailed work chasing funding. All need the support, co-operation and enthusiasm of the parishioners.

We hope that our Parish Action Plan is not over-ambitious. The targets we have suggested are not numerous and all should be attainable.

As always in a small community there is much to be done. We are reluctant to ask the already busy volunteers to take on yet more tasks. New voices and volunteers are needed to work along side the Parish Council to bring the actions to fruition. We have to be aware of financial costs and look for funding and support for some ideas beyond our community.

The Plan comes from a community which is predominantly positive about itself. A community which is aware of the beauty and value of its surroundings . A

community which wants to retain its character and individuality whilst accommodating visitors and new-comers alike.

# WOOLBEDING AND POUND COMMON

Most of the land and some of the property in the Parish of Woolbeding is owned and managed by The National Trust. It is therefore not surprising that many of the points raised by the parishioners related to this fact.

## **Action 1. To strengthen support for and co-operation with The National Trust.**

**How** Ask The National Trust to conduct an annual 'estate walk'.  
Formation of 'Friends of Woolbeding Common'  
Publication of a regular newsletter.  
Greater visibility of NT wardens.

**Who** National Trust  
All parishioners  
Volunteer who would act as point of contact for all parties.

**When** Matters to be put in hand immediately.

## **Action 2. Control vehicle parking**

(Many visitors ignore car parks and park inconsiderately and dangerously on narrow roads with limited visibility)

**How**  
Discourage parking on roadsides and passing bays  
Indicate locations of car parks.

**Who** The National Trust  
Highways department  
Parish Council

**When** Immediately

**Action 3. To preserve the common as a facility for the public and to ensure the paths and tracks on the common are not abused by horse riders and cyclists.**

(There is wide-spread concern about the increasing number of horses and cyclists using the footpaths on the Common).

**How** Work with the National Trust.  
Inform local riding schools, polo teams and other known riders.  
Increased visibility of NT wardens  
Parishioners to take a pro-active role

**Who** The National Trust  
Parish Council  
Parishioners

**When** Immediately

**Action 4. To restrict fencing on the Commons.**

(Concern is voiced about the use of fencing to control cattle on the Common. Any fencing should be of a temporary nature, erected in a safe manner by the landowner. Its purpose should be clearly explained to the public. It should be removed at the end of the grazing period.)

**How** Close contact between The National Trust and Parish Council  
Explanatory posters in car parks with contact phone numbers.  
Easy access to wardens for information.

**Who** National Trust  
Parish Council  
English Nature  
West Sussex Conservation Board

**When** On-going and with immediate effect

# HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

The comments received fell into two categories; Sustainable development within the parish alongside the future need for affordable housing and the concerns about the potential pressures on such a small rural parish from proposed developments, in much larger neighbouring parishes, on its boundaries.

## **Action 1. To promote sustainable development within the parish.**

(Those who expressed opinions felt that existing farm buildings and barns should be developed for housing and businesses to enable people to live and work within the parish. It was also considered of great importance that any conversions and new building should be in keeping with existing properties.)

**How**      Assess the demand  
              Identify suitable sites  
              Liaise with CDC  
              Raise local awareness

**Who**      Local landowners  
              The National Trust  
              Rural Revive ([www.ruralrevival.org.uk](http://www.ruralrevival.org.uk) 0113810730)  
              Action in Rural Sussex

              Country land and business association ([www.cla.org.uk](http://www.cla.org.uk))  
              Rural Development Service([www.defra.gov.uk/rds](http://www.defra.gov.uk/rds) 01189392347)  
              CDC Planning Officers  
              Parish Council

**When**     When need/opportunity arises.

**Action 2. To provide affordable housing to enable local families on low incomes to remain within the parish either by renting, buying or shared purchase of property.**

**How** Assess demand/need for this type of accommodation.  
Identify suitable sites/areas for development within the parish.  
Establish local criteria for affordable housing in West Sussex  
Discuss parish plan results with CDC  
Liaise with Parish Council and The National Trust

**Who** Parish Council  
Local landowners  
The National Trust  
CDC Planning officer  
Rural Housing Trust  
Action in Rural Sussex  
Countryside Agency

**When** As and when need arises

**Action 3. To object to large scale housing developments in neighbouring parishes which will affect the rural character of Woolbeding, put strain on local services and utilities and increase traffic on already unsuitable roads.**

(Concerns were mentioned specifically about potential developments at King Edward VII Hospital site in Easebourne, St Cuthmans' School site in Stedham, Telegraph Hill in Fernhurst, and most recently the mooted Whip Hill/Midhurst relief road in Midhurst. All these proposed developments about the parish boundaries).

**How** Raise awareness through parish council  
Appoint volunteer co-ordinator to monitor all planning application.  
Bring objections to notice of CDC  
Consult with WSCC on protection strategies

**Who** Parish Council  
CDC Planning Officers  
Action in Rural Sussex  
WSCC

**When** Immediate and on-going

# THE VILLAGE, HALL AND GREEN

The comments all showed a desire to maintain and develop community facilities, opportunities and well-being within the Parish. Many related to Redford Village Hall and to The Green. Many expressed a need to keep the Hall at the centre of the community, offering suggestions for its continued use.

## **Action 1. To make greater and more diverse use of Redford Village Hall.**

**How** Investigate type of activities and events possible i.e. social, fund-raising, educational.  
Form a Social Committee, possibly sub-committee of Village Hall Committee.

**Who** Group of interested local volunteers  
Village Hall Committee  
National Trust

**When** On-going

## **Action 2. To improve parking facilities at Redford Village Hall.**

**How** Investigate options with National Trust  
Liaise with neighbours.  
Continue regular maintenance of site.

**Who** Village Hall Committee  
Parish Council  
National Trust  
Local land-owners

**When** On-going

**Action 3. To up-grade and improve the facilities offered at the Village Hall.**

(The numerous comments varied from acquiring a new clock to completely rebuilding the village Hall in brick!)

**How** Set up a working party  
Identify needs and assess possibilities.  
Identify sources of funding.  
Prioritise requirements

**Who** Group of Volunteers  
Village Hall Committee  
WSCC  
National Trust  
Parish Council

**When** On-going. Village Hall Committee deals with this at present but larger schemes will require dedicated volunteers to work alongside them.

**Action 4. To make more use of The Green as an amenity**

**How** Investigate the possibilities of more seating, a play-area and regular maintenance of the area.  
Consult with relevant bodies about potential funding and up-keep costs

**Who** National Trust  
Parish Council  
Group of local volunteers

**When** Maintenance is on-going by National Trust.  
Process should be initiated by interested parties, liaising with the above groups,

**Action 5**      **To improve Parish Council and Village notice boards**  
(Comments indicated that the current boards were drab and not located in the most prominent positions)

**How**            Install new board (liaise with National Trust about placement).  
Replace/improve existing boards to make them weatherproof.

**Who**            Parish Council  
National Trust  
Village Hall Committee.

**When**          Immediate and on-going.

**Action 6**      **To obtain a footpath beside to road from Claypit Cottages to the village shop.**  
(The safety of pedestrians through the village of Redford has been a subject of concern for many years, increasingly so as the level and speed of through traffic increases)

**How**            Continue to lobby West Sussex County Council for pedestrian facilities, speed restrictions and traffic calming through the parish.  
Investigate alternative sources of funding

**Who**            Parish Council  
Local volunteer to liaise with different parties  
Mr Richard Bennett WSCC  
Mr Steve Johnson, Highways, WSDCC

**When**          On-going

**Action 7. To ensure that public facilities/services are improved or at least retained at current levels.**

(Concerns were voiced mainly about the need to retain the public telephone box in Redford, largely as an emergency point of contact because mobile 'phone reception is poor in the area. Many expressed a desire to see a more public police presence across the whole parish. A number of comments called for there to be no street lighting in the village of Redford, to maintain at least some of its rural character)

**How** Lobby BT to retain the rural telephone kiosk.  
Maintain local support for the facility.  
Establish and maintain links with local police.  
Re-activate Neighbourhood Watch.  
Ensure Parish Council is aware of local wishes.

**Who** Parish Council  
WSCC  
Phil Martin, (neighbourhood Watch)  
Local Police

**When** Immediate and on-going



# TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

The parish of Woolbeding is traversed from north to south by a single road linking the A272 west of Midhurst to the A3 north of Liphook. For most of its length this road is narrow. Sharp, blind bends lined by ancient walls and a narrow, listed bridge make the road difficult for large vehicles to negotiate in parts. However, the road straightens out as it passes through the village of Redford where motorists can, and do, race by at speed. The road is being used increasingly as an alternative route around Midhurst by drivers of vehicles of all sizes which have no respect for or interest in their surroundings.

More comments were received relating to this category than any other, which indicates the concerns and strength of feelings of parishioners.

## **Action 1. To limit the speed of traffic through the parish, in Particular through Redford.**

**How** Lobby WSCC for immediate action to introduce speed restrictions.  
Lobby WSCC for introduction of traffic calming measures in Redford.  
Investigate other forms of traffic calming - cattle-grids.  
Monitor traffic and affect of measures.  
Support Parish Council in its efforts to secure speed restrictions.  
Work with National Trust  
Create appearance of 'gated' entrance to residential area of village.

**Who** Parish Council  
National Trust  
Local volunteer co-ordinator  
Highways  
WSCC

**When** On-going and immediate.  
New calming measures and signing are promised for summer 2005.

**Action 2. To limit access for over-sized commercial vehicles.**

**How** Investigate possibility of re-routing large commercial vehicles via A286.

**Who** Volunteer co-ordinator  
Parish Council  
WSCC  
Defra

**When** On-going

**Action 3. Encourage local use of DoRIS and other local transport.**

**How** Provide local publicity for the services

**Who** Parish Council  
Local information pack editors.  
Local shop, garage, notice boards.

**When** ongoing

**Action 4. Address local transport pollution issues.**

**How** Enforce speed restrictions to reduce noise pollution  
Restrict heavy commercial traffic to reduce air pollution  
Monitor low-flying and frequent helicopter activity.  
Follow up identifiable cases with aim to reduce noise and air pollution.  
Contact military air bases - make aware of SSSI status of area.

**Who** Parish Council  
Volunteer co-ordinator  
WSCC

**When** On-going

# COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

## **Action 1. Revive and promote Neighbourhood Watch to cover whole parish and some surrounding properties.**

**How** Contact local police  
Initiate launch at Annual Parish Meeting  
Invite volunteers to kick-start scheme.

**Who** Volunteers  
Phil Martin, neighbourhood watch liaison officer  
Parish Council

**When** Latter half 2005

## **Action 2. To encourage recycling and opportunities to reduce litter within the parish.**

**How** Investigate the feasibility of the provision of a recycling centre (as in Milland).  
Identify suitable location.  
Organise local litter-picking/ tidy-up days.  
Investigate 'wild-life-proof' litter bins  
Investigate maintenance costs

**Who** Contact CDC (Ms. Hannah White 01243 7855166)  
Parish Council  
National Trust  
Local co-ordinator and volunteers

**When** At Parish Council's discretion

**Action 3. To promote local broadband telephone connection throughout whole parish**

**How** Encourage parishioners to sign up individually for the service.  
Lobby BT

**Who** Individuals

**When** Total coverage of parish promised mid-July 2005

**Action 4. To generate a crisis self-help strategy within the parish to be implemented in cases of flooding, snow, transport strike etc.**

**How** Form a Parish Emergency working party.  
Establish who is able to help, who is likely to need help.  
Create an emergency contacts list.

**Who** Volunteers from within the parish.

**When** Could be initiated at launch of Parish Plan

**Action 5. To preserve and support Woolbeding Church**

**How** Give financial and practical support to preserve this ancient building.  
Investigate possibility of events to raise funds.

**Who** Parish Council  
Members of the community  
Rev. Andrew Cunnington

**When** As appropriate

**Action 6. Seek to improve local authority and emergency services.**

(The comments were particularly related to deteriorating road surfaces, gritting and clearance of roads following snow falls and the regular clearance of drains necessary to prevent flooding during heavy rain).

**How** Lobby relevant authorities  
Parish Council  
Mr. Steve Johnson, Highways  
Mr. Richard Bennett, WSCC

**Who** Parish Council  
Individuals (who may contact the relevant Council department immediately a problem is identified).

**When** Immediate and on-going.

**Action 7. To create a welcome/information pack for newcomers.**

**How** Investigate possible content.  
Investigate production costs and sources of funding.  
Discuss need for regular up-dating of information.

**Who** Volunteers  
Village Hall Committee  
Parish Council  
National Trust  
Neighbourhood Watch  
Churches  
Local businesses

**When** As soon as possible.

**Action 8. To raise awareness of the sensitivity of the Commons and the surrounding Estate.**

(This links directly to Action 1 Woolbeding and Pound Commons)

**How** Form a Friends of Woolbeding Common group.  
Invite local residents and stakeholders to support such a group.  
Publish a regular newsletter to raise awareness.  
Encourage support from local communities abutting the parish.  
Work with the NT to conserve and preserve the Commons

**Who** Local volunteers and enthusiasts.  
National Trust  
Residents

**When** Ideally within a year of the launch of the plan

## **LOCAL BUSINESS**

**Action 1. Encourage new small business**

**How** Investigate possible premises suitable for new business.  
Investigate grants available for the setting up of new small businesses or the improvement of existing ones.  
Encourage businesses which use/help the local environment.

**Who** Volunteer group  
Parish Council  
CDC  
WSCC  
Rural Revival (01993 810730; [www.ruralrevival.org.uk](http://www.ruralrevival.org.uk))  
Rural Development Services (0118 9392347; [www.defra.gov.uk/rds](http://www.defra.gov.uk/rds) )  
FARMA (Farmers Markets 0845 2302150 )  
Business Link ([www.newbusinesslink.gov.uk](http://www.newbusinesslink.gov.uk) )  
NFU ([www.nfu.co.uk](http://www.nfu.co.uk) )  
Country Land and Business Association ([www.cla.org.uk](http://www.cla.org.uk) )

**When** On-going

**Action 2. Encourage local support of existing businesses**  
(PO and shop, garage, riding school, farms and gallery)

**How** Advertising

Investigate grants available for this and other supportive projects, refurbishment, extra facilities etc.  
Encourage businesses (particularly farm managers) to liaise more closely with parishioners (through PC meetings?)

**Who** Volunteer group

Representatives from local businesses

Parish Council

National Trust

CDC

WSCC

Rural revive (01993 810730; [www.ruralrevive.org.uk](http://www.ruralrevive.org.uk))

Rural Development Service (0118 9392347; [www.defra.gov.uk/rds](http://www.defra.gov.uk/rds))

Business Link ([www.businesslink.gov.uk](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk))

NFU ([www.nfu.co.uk](http://www.nfu.co.uk))

Country Land and Business Association ([www.cla.org.uk](http://www.cla.org.uk))

South East England Development Agency

([www.seeda.co.uk/business\\_funding](http://www.seeda.co.uk/business_funding))

**Action 3. Preserve the Post Office and Shop**

**How** Encourage local use (see Action 2)

Plan for future changes to ensure community and parish is enhanced.  
Investigate options of offering other services (photocopying, dry cleaning, shoe repair agency, coffee shop etc.)

**Who** National Trust

James Williams (current Postmaster)

Parish Council

CDC

WSCC

Rural Revival (01993 810730; [www.ruralrevival.org.uk](http://www.ruralrevival.org.uk))

Rural Development Service (0118 9392347; [www.defra.gov.uk/rds](http://www.defra.gov.uk/rds))

**When** On-going

#### **Action 4. Preserve Redford Garage**

**How** Encourage local use (see Action 2)  
Have emergency plan in place should a change in present circumstances occur to ensure the business and site continues to serve the community.

**Who** National Trust  
Rodney Purver (current tenant)  
Parish Council  
CDC  
WSCC  
Rural Revival (01993 81073; [www.ruralrevival.org.uk](http://www.ruralrevival.org.uk))  
Rural Development Service (0118 9392347; [www.defra.gov.uk/rds](http://www.defra.gov.uk/rds))

**When** On-going



At last, the draft of The Woolbeding Parish Action Plan.

Please read through it for mistakes and changes!

- There is no mention of the South Downs National Park and its potential impact. Is this an over-sight? If you feel able to comment on it please do so and it can be added to the plan before the final printing and distribution.
- Likewise, you will notice there are no illustrations. If you think photographs or drawings will add something to the document please feel able to contribute, they can be scanned in at appropriate places, although I have to point out that I am not very competent at this - the layout will have to be changed to accommodate them within the text.
- Ideas for a front cover?
- Can we meet before the end of August to make final decisions - we need to get the document printed and distributed now. Maybe wed can fix a date at the PC meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

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# What is a Parish Action Plan?

This Parish Plan was devised as a result of the Government White Paper on Rural England which urges communities to think positively about their future.

We asked the people of the Parish of Woolbeding to consider what the needs and demands of their communities will be in a rapidly changing world thus giving them the opportunity to have a voice in providing for the future. This knowledge will enable their Parish Council to move forward too, knowing that the decisions and representations they make have the support of the electorate.

The purpose of this Parish Plan is to establish what we need to do in the future, together with an explanation of how we have determined those needs.

The Woolbeding Parish Plan was first considered following a presentation by Action in Rural Sussex at the Annual Parish Meeting in 2003. An operating grant was made available by WSCC and the steering committee was formed the following year.

The Parish Council invited everyone within the parish to a launch meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup> 2004 in the Village Hall at which they were encouraged to make suggestions and comments about anything and everything. The consultation period was extended to the end of September 2004, a suggestion box being left in the village shop.

At the end of this period the comments were collated and analysed by the steering committee and grouped into areas of concern. These are the headings used in this Plan. They are probably similar to those in Plans produced by other rural parishes and communities with the exception of the section about the Commons, which is what makes Woolbeding Parish unique.

The steering committee have worked to produce the final document, a copy of which will be delivered to every household in the parish and the WSCC where it should be logged alongside the County Structure Plan to be considered at each stage of planning, by the last quarter of 2005.

The Parish Council and the steering committee will review the plan regularly, comments and findings will be aired at Woolbeding Parish Council meetings which are advertised and open to the public

This is a personal vision of the Parish in the future from a long-term resident. It indicates clearly her wish to re-establish the living and working aspect of our tiny community which has all but disappeared. Perhaps it is not too late.....

### The future of Woolbeding parish - including Redford

Having brooded over this matter for many years, I will now put some ideas on paper. I do not think for a minute that they will get general support but are perhaps worth thinking about.

The main consideration is the fact that the majority of the parish is under the ownership of the National Trust and therefore it is with them that we need to work.

My dream is to see the Woolbeding Estate as a self funding, working community with all that that involves, viz. profitable use of land, offering work and affordable housing to the people it employs.

You can see this either as an impossible view based on the past, or a way forward using private investment skills via the Trust and/or in co-operation with government policies.

When I think of work, I don't only mean the use of the woodland (c.f. Ben Law - very successful) and the herding of animals for good organic or 'free-range' meat but also small, hi-tech businesses, light industry (using wood? Bio-energy?), workshops benefiting skills and crafts.

We have the nucleus of a community here with a hall, village green, shop and garage. There is no shortage of scrub-land around that could be put to a very carefully planned development.

I would dearly like to see a small group of affordable houses for families who work locally, i.e. National Trust employees working for the local would appreciate and use both the green and hall.

But these ideas are pointless if this continues as an area where very few people have their hearts or pockets in the community. However, there are those who would have and we should be able to encourage them - rather than the place becoming an exclusive park for the rich and the ground nesting birds - I think that we need to face the reality of the future and be prepared to meet it positively.

Barnetts Cottage  
REDFORD  
Midhurst  
West Sussex  
GU29 0QG

25<sup>th</sup> January, 2005

Dear Penny,

**Re: Parish Plan**

Pat Kettle has kindly asked us to Swallows Bottom for the next meeting of the steering committee, so please meet there at 7.30 on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Marion has spent sometime collating the comments and identifying areas of 'crossover'. Enclosed are copies of the tables. It would be helpful if we could all look through them and bring ideas of where to go next to the meeting.

Aspects we need to think about are prioritising, presentation, action plans, sources of guidance and funding - not necessarily in that order. You will probably come up with other thoughts as well.

Best wishes,

Karen Lovett

# Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2004

- **Welcome and thanks for coming**
- **What is Parish Plan? Village appraisal gives better idea.**  
Powers that be demand that all parishes carry out a consultation with its residents the result of which will be a document which will be sent to CDC. It will have to be considered along side the county's Structure Plan in future planning. So if we don't do this we forfeit our opportunity to be heard as a community.
- **This is the first stage - finding out what matters to the community. What the community wants and doesn't want.**
- **Suggestion box here tonight (I'll explain what to do in a minute).**
- **The points which you raise will be grouped and analysed in the last quarter of the year. You will be kept informed of the process, there might be the need for further 'consultation' before the final document is sent to CDC. Various agencies (i.e. highways, housing, transport etc.) might need to be consulted. Some issues will possibly be dealt with locally from within the community.**
- **We all have one thing in common - we all live here, we are the community and we (you) all know what we like or don't like about the place. Some of us might agree about any number of things, many of us won't, but we all have opinions and ideas.**
- **Planning and development one obvious area to consider. A brief look around the room will give you other ideas.**
- **Woolbeding Parish is special - AONB, SSSI, largely owned by the National Trust and with the probability of a SDNP will be slap bang in the middle of it!**
- **Consider the impact of development around the parish and the affect of tourism on it.**
- **Do the present amenities support us do we support them?**

- **The implication of increased traffic and transport on our rural roads**
- Unusual shape (maps to remind you) Long and thin and split by A272 leaving the Severals on one side and the spread out communities of Redford, Older Hill, Woolbeding and Eastshaw Lane on the other.
- **Explain set up of room -one idea per sheet and post it. Bound to be areas of cross-over interest. As many as you can think of.**
- Steering group NOT exclusive - we're all busy people so if anyone would like to be involved in even the smallest way - for the shortest time, please talk to one of us. This should be a community centred and led effort.
- **Box in PO until the end of September (long consultation period because you always think of something else.**
- The consultation starts here!

Remember this can be a positive process to preserve, conserve, and improve the parish for us and the future.

Change is inevitable - so what changes will be good for Woolbeding?